

Committee name: Gleason Public Library Trustees

Meeting date: March 8, 2022

Zoom meeting only due to COVID-19

Meeting Minutes

Present: Jennifer Pike; Christine Stevens; Karen M. González-Valentín Gettings; Dale Joachim; Maxine Crowther, Kate Reid; Chief Brian Sorrows

Convened at 6:02 pm

1. Trustees approved February Minutes
2. Director's report—Jennifer provided the following updates:
 - a. We expect to see the FY23 final budget from FinCom soon.
 - b. Pot holes are due to be fixed soon.
 - c. Ellen resigned. She has been library assistant for circulation.
 - d. Diversity audit showed that Gleason's collection is "above average" for diversity. Jenn will forward the audit results to trustees.
 - e. Jane is shifting collections to provide more space for the teen collection.
 - f. Art at the Gleason is tentatively scheduled for May 6.
 - g. Winter reading challenge had high participation.
3. Fundraiser update—no update this period
4. Renovation sprinkler system cost estimate study. Kate and Chief Sorrows joined the trustees to consider our options, which are summarized as follows:
 - a. Reduce the project scope to less than 1/3 the library's assessed value in order to avoid installing a new sprinkler system. Brian MacDonald, Carlisle Assessor, says that, at \$347 per sq ft, he assesses the value of the library to be \$4,301,800. Therefore, trustees would need to keep the remodel costs to less than \$1.434M over the course of five years.
 - b. Keep the project scope as originally planned (\$1M-2M) and install a new sprinkler system. Because this would add significant cost, this could be funded through a warrant article in a future Town Meeting, CPA funds, or through ARPA funds.
 - c. Pursue an appeal. Chief Sorrows says that he believes this option is justified on several counts, e.g., because no one is sleeping in the building, fire alarms are modern and tested regularly, the library uses town water sources, excellent egress, etc. Trustees would need to have SSA prepare a notional sprinkler plan (SSA quoted \$12K to prepare a sprinkler plan, and Chief Sorrows will get backup quotes from other local sources who can prepare a professional sprinkler plan). Consult Jon Metivier, Carlisle Building Commissioner, if we decide to undertake an appeal.
5. New items
 - a. Dale is considering whether to run for re-election.
 - b. Karen will research potential tax preparers and make a recommendation at our April meeting. Maxine recommended H&R Block in Acton, which prepares the Friends' taxes.
6. April 7, 7 pm, is the next meeting date.
7. Adjourned at 7 pm.

Minutes prepared by Christine Stevens and approved on April 14, 2022.

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